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Agong-Birthday

KING WANTS PEOPLE TO ENHANCE PRODUCTIVITY

KUALA LUMPUR, June 1 (Bernama) -- The Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Ja'afar today urged Malaysians to enhance their skills and increase productivity to ensure the success of the Seventh Malaysia Plan.

The people should also have good work ethics, he said at an investiture held in conjunction with his official birthday at Istana Negara here.

In the course of implementing the five-year development plan, the government and the private sector should give emphasis to factors related to education, training and the nurturing of noble values, His Majesty said.

"I am happy that the Sixth Malaysia Plan had achieved success and I hope the Seventh Plan will be implemented with zeal and determination," he said.

His Majesty said the leadership of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and his Cabinet was vital in adopting the best approach when implementing the programme.

Stressing the need for higher education, he said trained manpower could contribute to national economic development.

In efforts to encourage higher education among the people, the public and private sectors should play a more effective role in the light of amendments made to the University and University Colleges Act, he said.

On industrial development, Tuanku Ja'afar said Bumiputeras should be more extensively involved in small and medium scale industries which supplied components to bigger industries.

"Malaysia also still needs foreign investment while Malaysian investors should invest overseas to secure new markets," His Majesty said.

In this respect, the investment promotion visits made by Dr Mahathir and Cabinet Ministers was of help, he said.

"Even though the industrialisation process usually brought along negative influences, the people should nevertheless be mature enough and be wise and hold to the family concept," he said.

Malaysians should continue to respect older people and have a caring attitude, he added.

"I believe with a strong family bond and good social relations, Malaysia can march forward and realise Vision, that is ensure Malaysia became a developed nation in its own mould," His Majesty said.

He said the role of the security forces and ability of the various communities in preserving unity among them had also contributed to the country's current successes. -- BERNAMA

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